

**GLASTONBURY TOWN COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2015**

The Glastonbury Town Council with Town Manager, Richard J. Johnson, in attendance, held a Final Budget Hearing and Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers of the Town Hall located at 2155 Main Street, Glastonbury, Connecticut.

**1. Roll Call**

***Council Members***

Dr. Stewart Beckett III, Chairman  
Mr. Whit C. Osgood, Vice Chairman  
Mrs. Jill Barry  
Ms. Karen Boisvert  
Mr. Lawrence J. Byar  
Mr. Kurt P. Cavanaugh  
Mr. William T. Finn  
Mr. Thomas P. Gullotta  
Mrs. Cara (Tonucci) Keefe

**a) Pledge of Allegiance**

***Led by Mr. Cavanaugh***

**2. Public Comment.**

**(a) Proclamation designating the month of May 2015 as National Bike Month.**

Chairman Beckett read the proclamation designating the month of May 2015 as National Bike Month. Mr. Dan Sharp accepted the proclamation and listed some of the activities that were happening around town including a bicycle trip into Hartford.

***Mr. Christopher A. Bird of 24 Twelve Acre Lane*** thanked the Council for requesting intervenor status but was disappointed they didn't respond to the siting council's request for preferred alternate locations. He asked the Council to intervene strongly, enthusiastically and effectively including devoting legal and professional resources that will send a message to the cell phone companies. He said that there are viable alternatives such as on Oakwood and called the radio frequency report invalid that was used to demonstrate need.

***Mr. Simon Mendlum of 45 Candlewood Road*** echoed the remarks of Mr. Bird and said that this is not a check the box exercise urging the Council to be effective in their opposition.

**Mrs. Lesley Mroz of 121 Heywood Drive** supported the comments of her neighbors adding that this is the most densely populated area of town and they are counting on the Council to formulate an effective opposition.

**Mr. Mark Schroeder of 151 Barrington Way** thanked the Council for requesting intervenor status but said time was short to mount a defense. He said that at minimum, a letter should be drafted to the siting council stating that the tower is not appropriate in a densely populated area and if they exist, offer alternative sites. He stated that these must be submitted long before the public hearing date.

**Mrs. Peggy Schroeder of 151 Barrington Way** also thanked the Council for requesting intervenor status and while the siting council has final say, the town has much sway. She said that while it is an uphill battle, they can prevail if the Town Council plays an active role in preventing the degradation of a scenic area. She asked for MCM to do a thorough and legitimate search for alternate sites to fill the gap.

### **3. Special Reports.**

#### **(a) Presentation on Senior Citizen Survey – Commission on Aging.**

Mrs. Eva Bowden, Chairman of the Commission on Aging, introduced the other Members present at the meeting as well as staff. She noted that they have a nationally accredited Senior Center and used a randomly selected subset of Sharing Tree recipients as well as the voters list. Overall, the survey indicated that the center and activities are received favorably and they derived some direction for the future. She reviewed the report in some detail which indicated an increasing senior population aging in home with increased support sought from families in caretaker roles. She spoke to the need for smaller living options for one or two people and the future need for the expansion of and added personnel for the senior center. Chairman Beckett thanked Commission of Aging Chairman Bowden and noted that the state budget also speaks to the desire for people to age at home instead of in nursing homes. He suggested that perhaps they should have a presentation and discussion on that topic during a future meeting.

### **4. Old Business.**

**None**

### **5. New Business.**

#### **(a) Status report on Capital Improvement Program.**

Mr. Johnson reviewed his status report to the Council dated May 8, 2015, noting that the showmobile is scheduled to be delivered, the open space access is well underway, Minnechaug irrigation improvements are in permitting and the multi-use path has a grant and is slated for 2016. Mrs. Keefe said that perhaps they should revisit the sidewalk matrix and priorities advocating for the connection to Buttonball and Stancliff. Mr. Byar asked about the Slocum Mill wall encapsulation. Mr. Johnson said that they are working for fencing the following week and have worked with the Historical Society on how to protect the structure and interpretive signage. He also said that they will have the analysis of the dam and pond in a couple of months.

Vice Chairman Osgood echoed Mrs. Keefe's suggestion to revisit the matrix and asked about the projects for the intersections of Hebron with House and New London Turnpike. Mr. Johnson said that the concept of a roundabout for the Hebron and House intersection was favorable to the state and they will be considering the same for the Hebron and New London Turnpike intersection in the next few months. Mr. Cavanaugh asked when he planned for the Council to see the area staked for the roundabout. Mr. Johnson said he thought in the next month or so. Mr. Cavanaugh asked that Ripley and Douglas be considered for the sidewalk matrix. Mrs. Keefe said that she'd like consideration to be given to a crossing for Main and Buttonball. Mr. Finn asked when they would get a report from the Minnechaug management team about operations and the question of opportunities from the restaurant. Regarding the Candlewood Tower proposal, he'd like to know what they can and can't do.

**(b) Action on potential land acquisition – donation to Town – Naubuc Avenue  
(refer to Town Plan & Zoning Commission).**

Mr. Johnson reviewed his memo to the Council dated May 8, 2015, noting that the property was offered as a donation. Vice Chairmen Osgood favored accepting the property given the adjacent town owned land and access to the water and suggested maybe the neighbor would follow suit. Mr. Byar agreed and asked the tax on the property which Mr. Johnson answered as \$54.

**Motion By:** Mr. Osgood **Seconded By:** Mr. Gullotta  
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby refers proposed Town acquisition of the 1.37 acre Kowalsky parcel located off Naubuc Avenue, to the Town Plan & Zoning Commission for a report and recommendation pursuant to CGS Section 8-24, as described in a report by the Town Manager dated May 8, 2015.

**Result:** Motion passes unanimously {9-0-0}.

**6. Consent Calendar.**

**None**

**7. Town Manager's Report.**

Mr. Johnson reviewed his report to the Council dated May 8, 2015, noting the cell tower hearing and the Council testimony which could range from a letter with findings to participating in a formal evidentiary hearing. Vice Chairman Osgood requested a map of the cell towers in town

and the residential neighborhoods. Mr. Gullotta questioned the deadline and Mr. Johnson said that he would confirm it. Mrs. Barry asked for a description of the formal versus informal testimony. Mr. Johnson said that the more formal proceedings include legal counsel where formal evidence is presented and the other is more like a forum. Mrs. Keefe questioned what could be done in advance of May 28. Ms. Boisvert questioned how they could notify residents of their involvement but also, be sure they don't think the Council can do more than it can. Mr. Johnson said that they could provide expert testimony, witnesses and written testimony and could be as sophisticated as they are willing to support. Mr. Finn also expressed interest in knowing their options so they could decide what is appropriate.

Mr. Johnson continued reviewing his report noting that a neighbor was willing to grant an easement for the sidewalk if the town was willing to clear the sidewalk of snow adding that if town forces are next door for snow removal, it was easy enough to continue. He told the Council that he spoke with the siting council on the location of the fuel cell facility building being 70-80 feet closer to Hebron Avenue than the plans indicate and that minimally, they would seek an enhanced landscaping plan. Mr. Gullotta said that they were working on Sunday seemingly trying to get as far as they could as fast as they could so it wouldn't be undone. He said that this is not an honest mistake with the contractors doing what they pleased from the first shovel. He indicated he would like to do more than require more landscaping, he'd like to consider a cease and desist and some kind of penalty. Mr. Cavanaugh called the fuel cell massive and uglier every day asking if the final plan included a cover or if the mechanicals would be visible in perpetuity. He said the town would never have approved this project and he would love to see a cease and desist and have it torn down.

Mr. Johnson continued review of his report and noted the field lighting request. Chairman Beckett noted that the hearing on the Atlantic Bridge Gas Line project was taking place at the same time as this meeting. Mr. Finn asked if they presented a different plan for the fuel cell facility and was troubled with how they got so far along. He also suggested a cease and desist. Mr. Johnson explained that they could only determine that the developer getting an answer that there were not impacts to wetlands as an "approval" to move the building. Mr. Cavanaugh asked about the library space project. Mr. Johnson said that the planning part was funded by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Century Fund and that is as far as they have gotten to date. Mr. Cavanaugh noted that the power company downed trees on Neipsic near Lincoln and Goodrich but then left them there and they are very unattractive.

Mr. Gullotta said that he had gotten calls from residents not enthused about the "riprap" which means dumping a lot of stone in the Connecticut River and asked if they could just remove things on top. Mr. Johnson reviewed the report which is posted on the website and says they must do both the riprap and the removal of weight on the top of the slope. He noted that the park is fully functional except for use of the excavated area and would seek a formal competitive bid. He said that they are looking at the funding options from working collaboratively to litigation. Chairman Beckett answered the editorial in the newspaper which indicated the Council told the consultant where to place the building emphasizing that no one on the Council told anyone where to put the building and that the geo technical consultant, project architects and engineers

made that call. Mr. Cavanaugh was interested in speaking to the geotechnical company. Mr. Gullotta noted that not everyone favored development of the boat house in this location. Mr. Cavanaugh noted that where else would they have considered a boat house but on the river.

- 8. Committee Reports. None**  
**(a) Chairman's Report.**

- 9. Communications.**  
**(a) Notice from CT Siting Council of public hearing on proposed communication tower – Seven J's Farm, Candlewood Road.**  
**(b) Letter from Spectra Energy/Algonquin Gas re Atlantic Bridge Project public meeting.**

**10. Minutes**

- (a) Minutes of April 10, 2015 Special Council Meeting.**

**Motion By:** Mr. Osgood **Seconded By:** Mr. Gullotta  
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby approves the minutes as submitted for the special meeting held April 10, 2015.

**Result:** Motion carries by the following vote: {8-0-1}

**For:** Chairman Beckett, Vice Chairman Osgood, Mrs. Barry, Ms. Boisvert,  
Mr. Byar, Mr. Cavanaugh, Mr. Finn and Mr. Gullotta  
**Against:** None  
**Abstain:** Mrs. Keefe {excused}

- (b) Minutes of April 28, 2015 Regular Council Meeting.**

**Motion By:** Mr. Osgood **Seconded By:** Mr. Gullotta  
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby approves the minutes as submitted for the regular meeting held April 28, 2015.

**Result:** Motion passes unanimously {9-0-0}

- 11. Appointments and Resignations. None**

**12. Executive Session**

**Pending Litigation-**

- **LAC v Town of Glastonbury**
- **Riverfront Park**

**Motion By:** Mr. Osgood

**Seconded By:**

Mr. Gullotta

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby enters executive session at 8:26 pm for the purposes of discussing and receiving information, pursuant to CGS 1-200(8) and (9), concerning strategy and negotiations with respect to a pending claim and litigation LAC v Town of Glastonbury and Riverfront Park.

**Result:** Motion passes unanimously {9-0-0}.

**Present for the executive session were Town Council Members:** *Dr. Stewart Beckett III, Chairman, Mr. Whit C. Osgood, Vice Chairman, Mrs. Jill Barry, Mr. Lawrence J. Byar, Mr. Kurt Cavanaugh, Mr. William Finn, Mr. Thomas P. Gullotta and Mrs. Cara Keefe with Town Manager, Richard J. Johnson.*

**Motion By:** Mr. Osgood

**Seconded By:**

Mr. Gullotta

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby exits executive session at 9:05 pm.

**Result:** Motion passes unanimously {9-0-0}.

### **13. Adjournment**

**Motion By:** Mr. Osgood

**Seconded By:**

Mr. Gullotta

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby adjourns their regular meeting of May 12, 2015, at 9:06 pm.

**Result:** Motion passes unanimously {9-0-0}.

Respectfully submitted,

*Kimberly Meanix Miller*

Kimberly Meanix Miller  
Recording Clerk

*Stewart Beckett III*

Stewart Beckett, III  
Chairman